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Transcriber's Office  
FLOOR DEBATE

April 5, 2004

LB 1065

SENATOR BAKER: Thank you, Senator Cudaback and members. As Senator Landis and Senator Connealy did say, this is a technical amendment here that really there's some good people out there putting funding together for these ethanol plants. In the case of one of them, I understand there was some nontaxpaying entities involved. This would allow a business that had 90 percent or more of their ownership in taxpaying entities to qualify at that 10...up to 10 percent, would not disqualify them. And that goes back to some of my statements I made on my opening of the bill. There's some really good people out there working on these ethanol projects that need to get a better basic understanding of what we're doing. We're trying to rescue one here that did not see the pitfalls of allowing some nonprofits or somebody in that, I have no idea who they are, in there that disqualified for the entire program. So I ask for your support for Senator Landis' amendment, AM2845. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Baker. Further discussion on the Landis amendment to the committee amendments? Senator Bourne.

SENATOR BOURNE: Thank you, Mr. President, members. I do support the Landis amendment to the committee amendments, but I'm struggling with this whole concept, to be quite honest with you. When we passed LB 536, I don't know what it was, two or three years ago, I supported it. Now why would a city person support something that really, while it benefits the whole state, it seems to benefit more specifically greater Nebraska? And I supported it because I wanted Nebraska folks to build these plants. I wanted Nebraskans to get jobs building the plants. I wanted Nebraska equipment dealers to get contracts giving equipment to build the jobs. I wanted Nebraska material makers to get contracts to build these plants. That's what I...that's why I supported it, because I wanted Nebraska people to build them, supply them, work at them to benefit everyone here in the state. That's why I supported LB 536 in its initial form. So where are we at? We...LB 536 went forward. Four plants, as Senator Landis mentioned, four plants have been built and are either producing ethanol or will shortly within the next week or two, as I understand it. And so here we sit. We have two bills, LB 1065, which largely provides funding for the